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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: OPTICAL EFFECT LAYERS SHOWING A VIEWING ANGLE DEPENDENT OPTICAL EFFECT; PROCESSES AND DEVICES FOR THEIR PRODUCTION; ITEMS CARRYING AN OPTICAL EFFECT LAYER; AND USES THEREOF

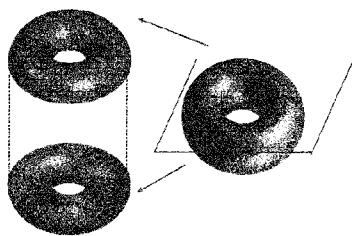


Fig. 1A

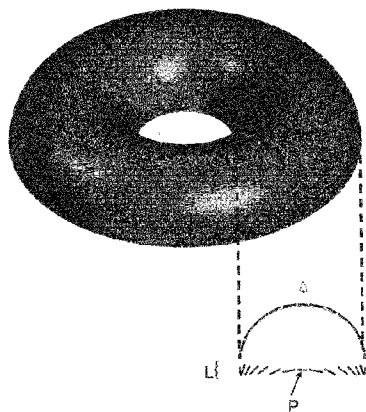


Fig. 1B

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the field of the protection of security documents such as for example banknotes and identity documents against counterfeit and illegal reproduction. In particular, the invention relates to optical effect layers (OEL) showing a viewing-angle dependent optical effect, devices and processes for producing said OEL and items carrying said OEL, as well as uses of said optical effect layers as an anti-counterfeit means on documents. The OEL comprises a plurality of non-spherical magnetic or magnetizable particles, which are dispersed in a coating composition comprising a binder material, wherein in at least a loop-shaped area of the OEL at least a part of the plurality of non-spherical magnetic or magnetizable particles are oriented such that their longest axis is substantially parallel to the plane of the OEL, and wherein, in a cross-section perpendicular to the plane of the OEL and extending from the centre of the central area, the longest axis of the oriented particles present in the loop-shaped area forming the impression of the loop-shaped body follow a tangent of either a negatively curved or a positively curved part of a hypothetical ellipse or circle.



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ADD.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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B05D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	BE 678 945 A (SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME TÉFAL) 4 October 1966 (1966-10-04) the whole document -----	1-10, 13-15, 17,18,20
X	US 2005/106367 A1 (RAKSHA VLADIMIR P [US] ET AL) 19 May 2005 (2005-05-19) paragraphs [0007], [0064], [0089]; figures; examples ----- -/-	1-10, 13-20



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